

**Bigfork Steering Committee Minutes**  
**February 19, 2009**  
**bigforksteering.org**  
**(draft)**

In attendance: Craig Wagner, Pat Wagner, Edd Blackler, Steve Zabaro, Gary Ridderhoff, Shelley Gonzales, Chuck Gough, Al Johnson, Don Loranger, Paul Guerrant, Denise Lang, Alex Strickland

Chairman Craig Wagner called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm.

**Agenda:** The agenda for this meeting was adopted as a discussion of the Bigfork Neighborhood Plan, result of the Flathead County Planning Meeting on February 11, 2009, between Shelley Gonzales, BSC Chairman of the Neighborhood Plan and now BLUAC and Jeff Harris and BJ Grieve of the Flathead County Planning Department.

**Minutes:** No minutes were read

**Treasurer's Report:** No report

**Committee Reports:** None

**Planning Meeting Report December 11, 2009:** Shelley remarked at the end of our workshop with the County Planning Board we were told to fix some items such as the implementation strategy, rewrite and change wording in other sections and bring the Plan back for another vote of the board. The Board Chairman stated that the Plan would probably go right to the commissioners. The 2-11 Planning Board meeting with a full board present, including one new member and after waiting 3 and ½ hours for other applications to be heard, it was finally our turn.

After a discussion by the Board on different aspects that had already been settled in previous meetings and the legality of 2 new items, we had to hear from two people outside our community express their opinions on the Bigfork Plan. More discussion followed, public comment was closed and a vote was taken to table the Plan and let the Planning Board rewrite the sections they believe need changing. Our next meeting with the Planning Board is March 25, 2009.

After meeting with Jeff Harris, Shelley found out our next meeting has no public comments because of the tabling motion after public comment was closed. Jeff and BJ said let's let it go to the commissioners this way, and BJ will use his laptop to highlight and strike out unwanted items.

Al Johnson has checked the Flathead County Growth Plan and in Chapter 10 on Neighborhood Plans nowhere does it state the current Planning Board has the power to write neighborhood plans.

A lengthy discussion followed between all members of our group as to which way we go to solve this problem. We can go with BJ taking notes for us to use with the commissioners and letting the Planning Board write their say. Or we can tell the Planning Department to let the Planning Board know we want the Plan submitted as it stands, with the exception of items that are of a legal nature.

Steve Zabaro made a motion to send a delegation to have a conference with Jeff Harris. It was seconded by Don Loranger. Shelley, Don and Al and Craig were selected to attend.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:00

Secretary, Pat Wagner